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NATIONAL NEGRO HEALTH WEEK.

EIGHTH ANNUAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN TO BE OBSERVED
APRIL 2-8, 1922.

The National Negro Health Week of 1921 resulted in an increased interest among the colored people in the matter of health improvement, an interest that has been materially stimulated by the "health weeks" of the past few years. A program was prepared which contained a schedule of the daily activities to be carried on and other helpful information. Unfortunately, the number available was insufficient to supply the requests (for 37,280 copies) which came from all sections of the country.

To meet the demand for the 1922 Health Week program, the Tuskegee Institute has appropriated \$200 from its health fund for the purchase of pamphlets containing the program and other information. Other agencies have included quantity purchases in their plans for cooperation. These pamphlets can be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

The health and welfare agencies cooperating include the following: The United States Public Health Service, the State boards of health, the National and State medical associations, the National and State associations of graduate nurses, the American Social Hygiene Association, the National Child Welfare Association, the National Tuberculosis Association, the American Red Cross, the National Urban League, the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, churches, schools, fraternal societies, insurance companies, and other organizations interested in health welfare and public health education.

SOME RESULTS OF HEALTH EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICE.

Madison County, Ala., has a population of 50,000, a large proportion of which is colored. In 1917 the Public Health Service undertook a demonstration in rural sanitation, in cooperation with the State and county health authorities and certain nongovernmental agencies. A strong health department was jointly effected; a public health educational program was carried out; sanitary inspections were made; numerous sanitary privies were installed; many inoculations were performed against typhoid fever and smallpox; and other activities of a public health nature were carried on.

The reduction in deaths for 1919, as compared with the average for the years 1915 to 1917, amounted to over 150 lives. Such a reduction is too great to be explained on the basis of normal fluctuation; a large part of it was apparently due to the public health campaign. The total cost of this demonstration was about \$10,000 a

year. If the 150 lives were saved as a result of the campaign, it cost \$66 to save each life.

In the past eight years, largely through health education and public health nursing, the death rate of the 1,500,000 Negro policy holders of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. was reduced 9 per cent. This demonstrates the importance of widespread information on health improvement.

The National Negro Insurance Association, organized in Durham, N. C., October, 1921, has proposed in its program for colored insurance companies the establishment of social service and health departments. Some companies already have and are developing a service of this kind.

It is estimated in the Negro Year Book that 450,000 colored people in the South are seriously ill all the time; that the annual cost of these 450,000 cases of sickness is \$75,000,000; that 225,000 colored people in the South die annually; that the annual expense of these 225,000 deaths is \$25,000,000; that 50 out of every 100 cases of annual sickness can be prevented; that 45 out of every 100 annual deaths can be prevented; that the annual loss of earnings from sickness and deaths is \$300,000,000; that \$150,000,000 in earnings can be saved annually by hygiene and sanitation.

In recent years, especially since the establishment of the National Negro Health Week, the death rate among Negroes has been decreasing.

The 1922 Health Week printed program will contain statistical graphs showing mortality rates in the colored population for certain diseases having very high rates and showing the decline in these rates since the campaign for definite health education and service was instituted.

In accordance with the campaign plans discussed at a meeting of representatives of the national health organizations held during the sessions of the Annual Tuskegee Negro Conference at Tuskegee Institute in January, 1922, the following program was approved:

1922 HEALTH WEEK PROGRAM.

Sunday, April 2: Sermon and Lecture Day. Health sermons and lectures by ministers, physicians, and other qualified persons. Urge the carrying out of the Health Week program. Give references to health information and urge cooperation with organized agencies. Emphasize mother and infant welfare work to reduce high infant mortality.

Monday, April 3: Hygiene Day. Personal and community hygiene talks by physicians, visiting nurses, social workers, and other qualified persons. Social hygiene education and venereal disease control measures should be considered in special meetings. Health

films, slides, and exhibits should be used wherever possible under proper supervision.

Tuesday, April 4: "Swat-the-Fly" Day. Destroy the breeding places of flies and mosquitoes. Talk on the possibility and danger of disease being spread by insects and rats, and describe the methods of destroying these disease carriers. All homes, markets, bakeries, and food establishments should be screened against flies.

Wednesday, April 5: Children's Health Day. Health programs, stories of modern health crusades, parades, etc. It is suggested that, on or before this day, school buildings and premises be put in sanitary condition, and if programs are carried out in school buildings parents and patrons be invited to attend. Some part of the exercises of this day should be devoted to commemoration of the birthday of Booker T. Washington, founder of National Negro Health Week.

Thursday, April 6: Tuberculosis Day. Talks by physicians, visiting nurses, social workers, and other qualified persons. Explain that tuberculosis (consumption) is not hereditary, but is spread through carelessness; that treatment should begin early. Emphasize for prevention: (1) Good cheer, (2) Good food; (3) Fresh air; (4) Proper living.

Friday, April 7: Church Sanitation Day. Clean churches thoroughly inside and out. Clear the yards of all rubbish, etc. Put toilets in sanitary condition. It is suggested that health entertainments or meetings for informal talks on the week's program and the Saturday general clean-up follow the day's work.

Saturday, April 8: General Clean-up Day. Complete all cleaning of homes, buildings, and premises. The community supervising committee should prepare, through its secretary or other person, a report of the results of the Health Week program and send copy or summary to newspapers and cooperating organizations.

It is suggested that a committee be organized in each community to supervise the carrying out of the above program.

References to agencies supplying health information and materials are printed on the back cover of the program.

Requests for other information and suggestions for the campaign should be sent to Dr. R. R. Moton, principal, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

DEATHS DURING WEEK ENDED MAR. 18, 1922.

Summary of information received by telegraph from industrial insurance companies for week ended Mar. 18, 1922, and corresponding week, 1921. (From the Weekly Health Index, Mar. 21, 1922, issued by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.)

	Week ended Mar. 18, 1922.	Corresponding week, 1921.
Policies in force.....	49, 269, 076	46, 293, 930
Number of death claims.....	11, 727	9, 434
Death claims per 1,000 policies in force, annual rate....	12. 4	10. 6